

Weekly Farm Summary 28th April 2022

Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.

	Std Kale Pink	LI Kale Blue	Std FB Green	LI FB Yellow
Farmlet area including wintering	75.0	72.1	75.0	69.2
Peak cow numbers	195	162	194	162
Milking Area	63.4	60.5	63.4	60.5
Current Herd size (cows)	164	133	160	134
Pasture Stocking rate	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.2
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Kale In-Shed feed		Fodder beet Fodder beet/Baleage	
Average Cover	2236	2101	2265	2125
Average Growth	39	33	30	30
Target rotation length	44	42	44	42
Last week act rotation (d)	44	42	44	41
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	6.9	8.2	7.8	8.7
Average BCS	4.66	4.50	4.49	4.49
% of herd on priority feeding	14%	20%	8%	5%
Milk yield (L/cow)	12.4	10.8	11.6	11.3
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	1.37	1.22	1.30	1.29
Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr	193	50	193	50
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	84% (162kg)	106% (53kg)	79% (152kg)	108% (54kg)
Effluent N YTD	12	11	18	19
Profit/ha comp to Control	\$0	-\$210	-\$173	-\$166
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	862	689	736	689
YTD MS/cow	396	393	370	372
YTD MS/ha	1,217	1,052	1,133	996
Business Area	Current Status			
Feed	As temperatures remain warm, growth continues at levels higher than what was budgeted for. Baleage will be removed for all herd except the LI Kale herd as APC is at a level that allows this. FB allocation will be reduced for FB herds to ensure it can remain in the diet until dry off.			
Milk Production	Production continues to hold around the 1.3kgMS for all herds. 91 cows dried off this week. SCC has mirrored rainfall in the FB herds. LI FB herd hit 1000kgMS/ha this week, taking the farm average to 1116kgMS/ha.			
People	Planning underway for an end of season event before Christian moves on.			
Animals	Total of 104 cows are now dried off, with a range of treatments used in order to do so. Planning has been completed for feeding culls still on farm at 1 June. Increase in lameness incidents over the past week, with cows in all mobs not just those on crop.			
Environment	Effluent applications being reviewed weekly in alignment with soil temperatures and moisture levels. Target pond level at dry off is between 25% and 30%.			
Wintering	Winter plans have been finalised by Louise and Billy. Baleage will not be pre-laid out in the transition areas of the paddocks, instead it will be done on the day to ensure wastage does not occur and bales can be placed out for easy cow access in the smaller transition breaks.			
Research	Fodderbeet dry matter samples have been taken, however issues with the oven have given inaccurate results so further sampling will be completed prior to cows going on there for winter.			

**Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter
AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.**

Feed

Principles of Pasture Management this week

Feed Quality	<p>As growth post the dry period takes off again, supplementary feed for all herds is reducing to ensure that feed quality into winter is optimised. Pasture quality data is not known for this week but growth rates and APC suggests that there is enough feed available to enable this supplementary feed to be reduced.</p> <p>Lucerne has been removed from the diet as the quality of this load wasn't as high and was potentially impacting milk production.</p>
Growth Rate Management	<p>The LI Kale herd look to be the most challenging over the coming week due to the number of cows in that herd that have been dried off and covers being where they are. If required paddocks will be stepped over in this farmlet and come back to when its at a level high enough for 3 feeds.</p> <p>Dry cows will follow cows through paddocks where residual has not been met to clean up left over feed.</p>
Nitrogen Strategy	<p>Effluent applications are being reviewed weekly, however at current soil temperatures and moisture levels it will continue for the foreseeable.</p>

	Standard Kale Pink	Low Impact Kale Blue	Standard Fodder beet Green	Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow
Quantity	Growth above demand	Growth above demand	Growth above demand	Growth above demand
Quality	DM% is now at 17.5%	DM% is now at 17.5%	DM% is now at 17.5%	DM% is now at 17.5%
Surplus Management	None	Step over paddocks until at 3 feed level if required	None	None
Deficit Management	2.0 kg inshed	0.3kg inshed	0.8 kg inshed 1.2 kg FB	0.8 kg inshed 1.2kg FB 2.0kg baleage
Rotation Length	44 days	42 days	44 days	41 days

Milk Production

Principles of Milk production management this week

Milk Production	<p>Milk production continues to fluctuate between 1.2 and 1.3 kg MS/cow/day across all herds.</p> <p>SCC in the fodder beet herd has fluctuated this week coinciding with rainfall.</p> <p>Total production/ litres has taken a hit this week with an additional 91 cows being dried off.</p> <p>All herds are still back on last seasons production with the Std FB herd being the furthest below last season.</p>
Key influences on milk production	<p>With the change in diet this week ie reduction in supplements, it will again start to be evident in milk production when cows move through paddocks of lower quality as to date supplement may have been buffering that impact.</p>
Cow Management	<p>91 cows dried off this week and the remainder booked for the 24th. However if there are animals between now and then that have a bad case of mastitis, a huge spike in SCC or a case of lameness they will also be dried off.</p>

	Standard Kale Pink	Low Impact Kale Blue	Standard Fodder beet Green	Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow
kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)	1.37/(1.43)	1.22/(1.25)	1.30/(1.32)	1.29/(1.33)
kg Milksolids per ha this year / (this time last year)	1237/(1275)	1067/(1047)	1151/(1224)	1011/(1006)
Season to date compared to last year	Down 0.6% total milk	Down 2.5% total milk	Down 5.6% total milk	Down 3.8% total milk
Cows dried off	36 cows (19% of herd)	38 cows (28% of herd)	20 cows (12% of herd)	24 cows (10% of herd)
Animal health peculiarities	None	None	SCC increase	SCC increase

Animals

Key Summary of decision rules

There are a number a different drying off treatments being used at SDH this year as we look to give cows the best possible start to next season. To date the 104 cows that have been dried off have been based on a number of reasons ie early calver with low BCS, low yield, high SCC etc. As well as different drying off reasons, this year 4 dry off methods will be used: teatseal only, quadrant or a combination of the teatseal and dry cow.

The decision rules around who gets what are:

-Quadrant: High SCC and reoccurring mastitis (only 10 to date, we expect this number to staty relatively low)

Teatseal only: No mastitis and low seasonal SCC

Combination of teatseal and dry cow therapy: cows that had an SCC of over 100,000 at the last herd test.

Number of cows under each dry off reason

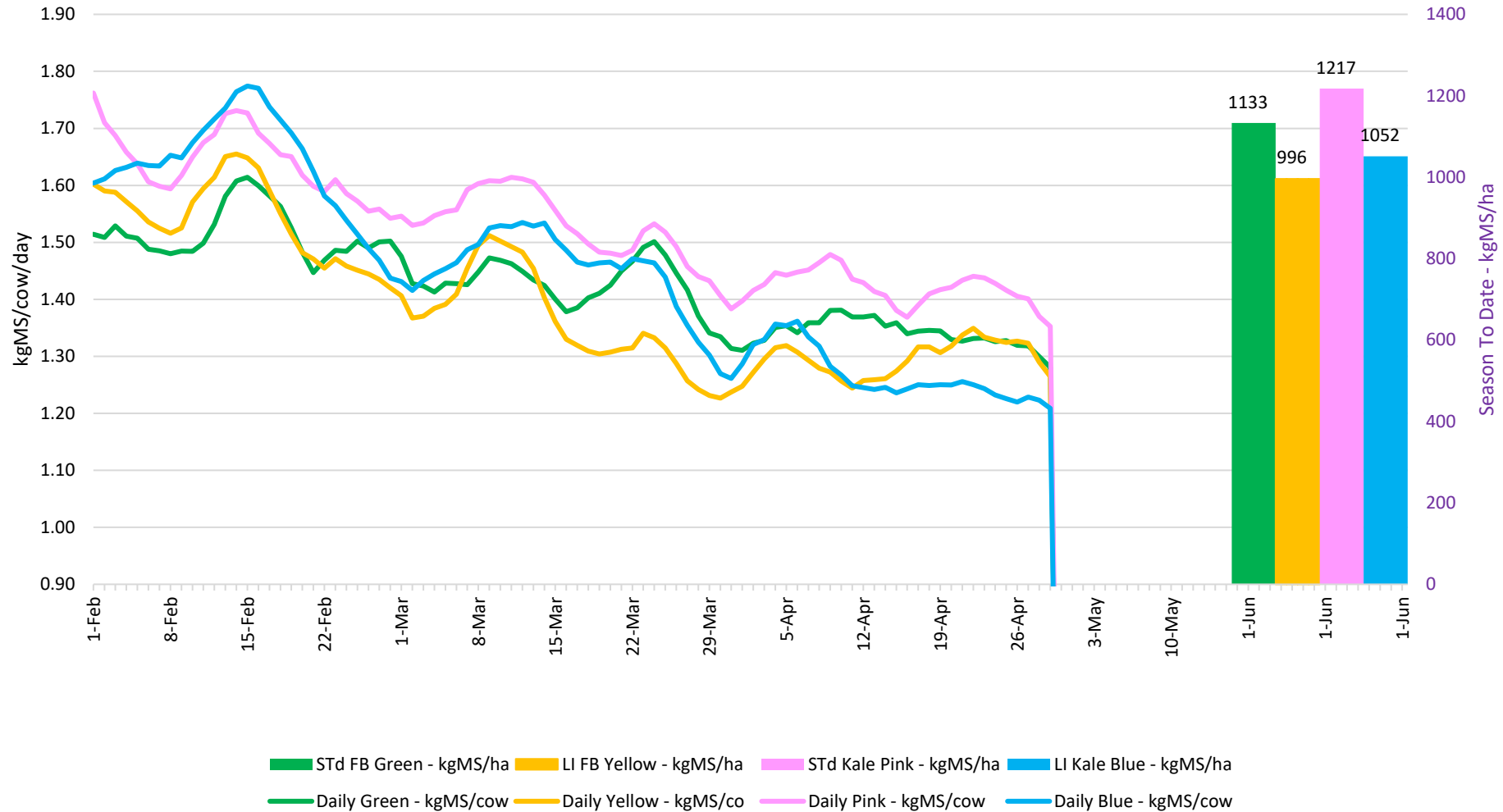
Dry off Reason	Std_Kale (Pink)	Ll_Kale (Blue)	Std_FB (Green)	Ll_FB (Yellow)	Grand Total
EARLY DRY OFF BCS	18	20	1	4	43
Early dry off young marginal	2	3	4	2	11
Investigate BCS dry off	3	2	2		7
Low Yield dry off	4	7	5	3	19
Low Yield dry off Cull	1		2	1	4
HIGH SCC Dry off		3	2	1	6
High SCC Cull			2	1	3
Grand Total	28	35	18	12	93

Number of cows getting each dry off treatment

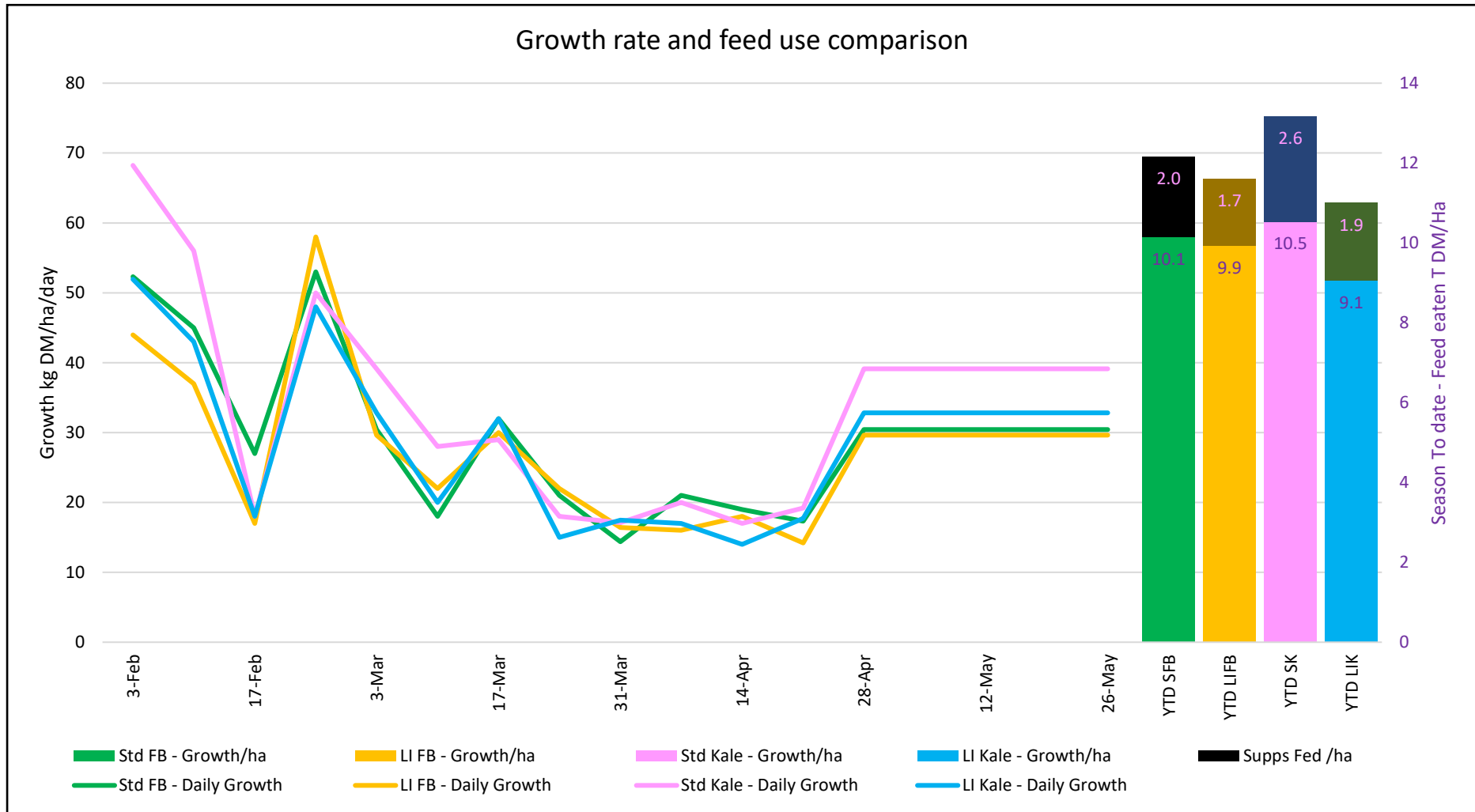
Dry cow and Teatseal needs	Std_Kale (Pink)	Ll_Kale (Blue)	Std_FB (Green)	Ll_FB (Yellow)	Grand Total
Cull - Nothing	1		2	1	4
DCT only cull			2	1	3
Combo	11	9	4	1	25
QUADRANT	1	4	4	1	10
Teatseal only	15	22	6	8	51
Grand Total	28	35	18	12	93

**Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.
 Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp. Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year**

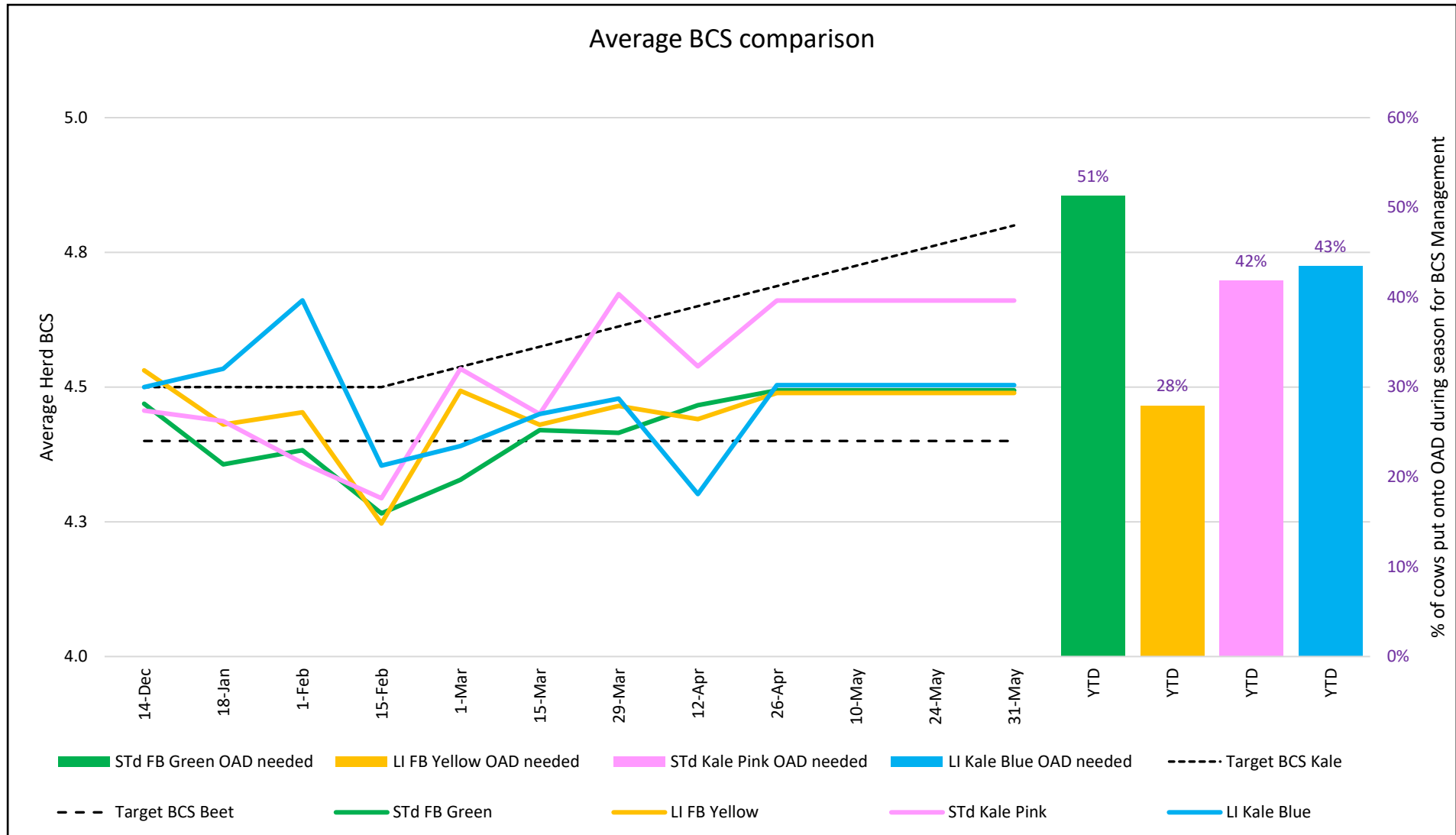
Milk Performance



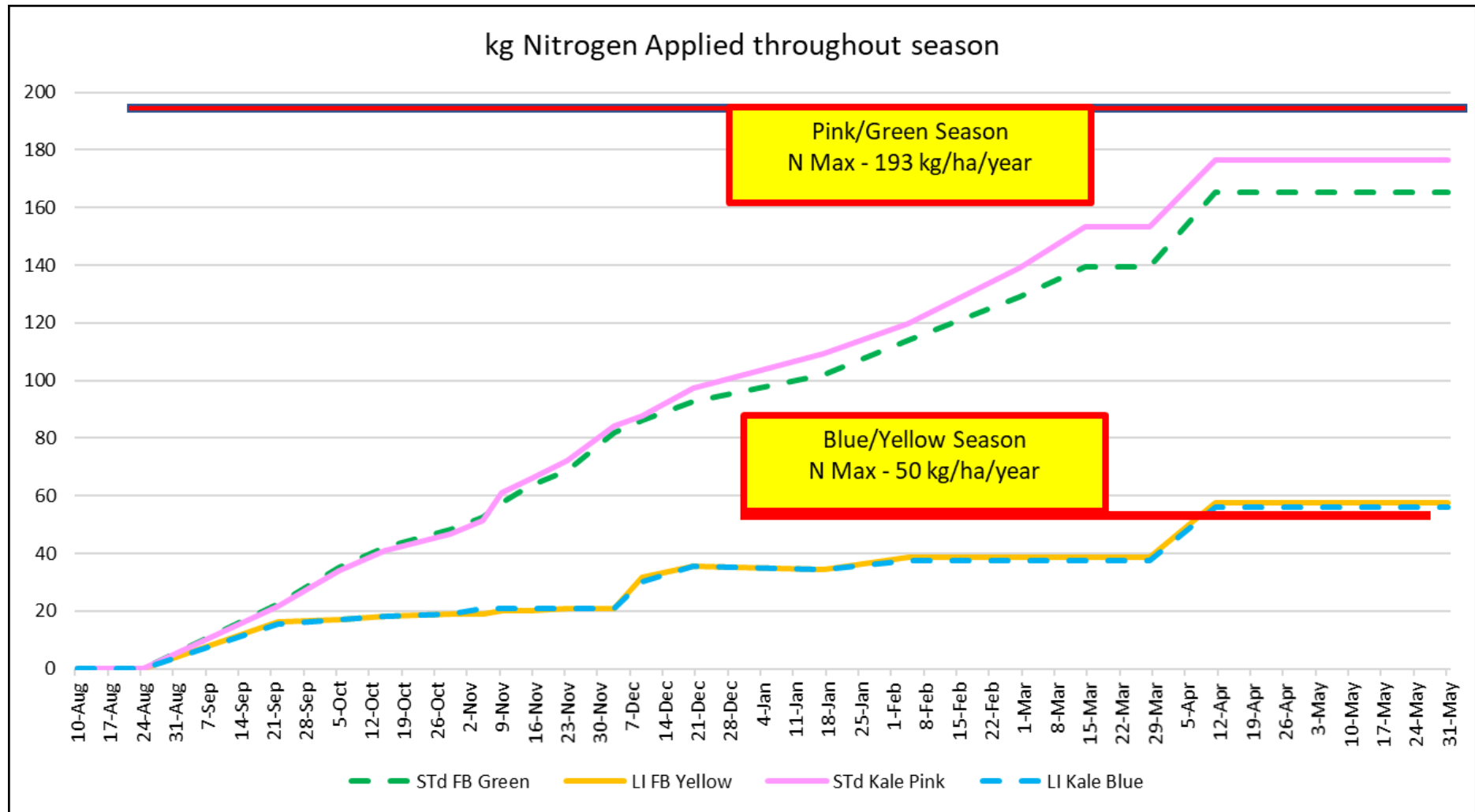
Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.
Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp. Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year



Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.
Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp. Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year

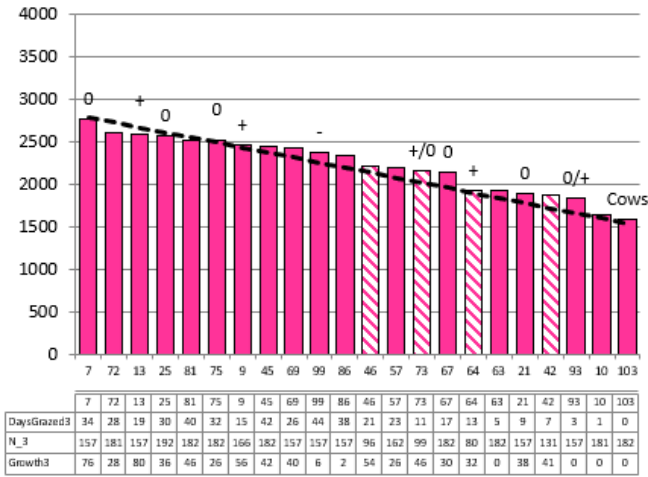


Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.
Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp. Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year

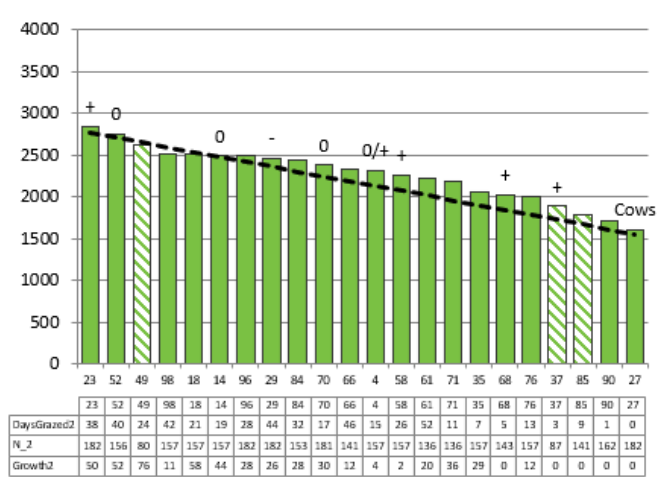


Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.

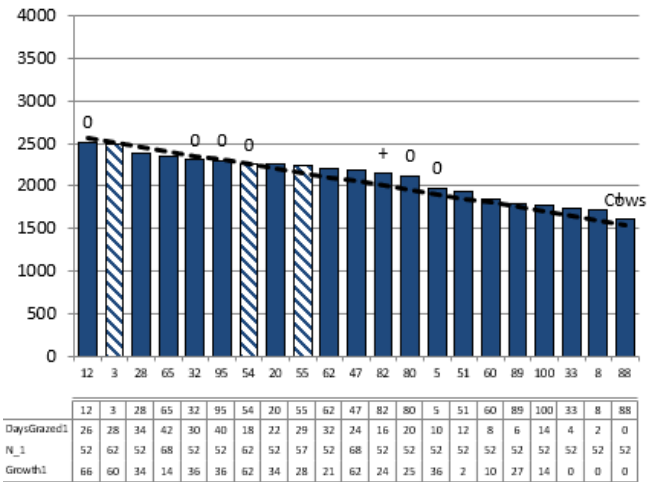
Standard Kale



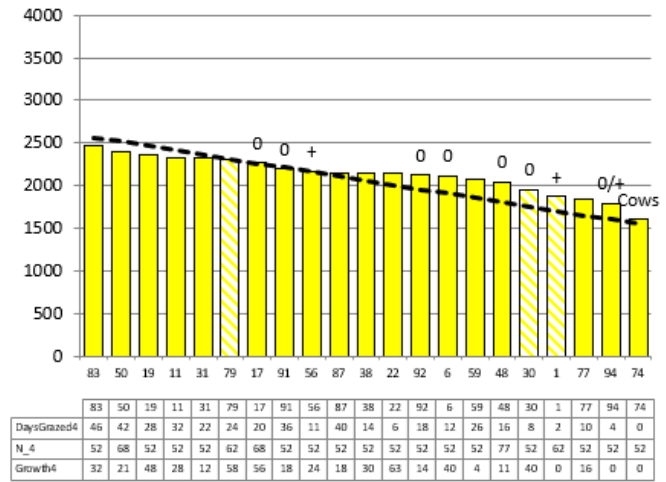
Standard Fodder Beet



Low Impact Kale



Low Impact Fodder Beet



NB: Hatched bars are 2021 new grass paddocks being managed on a faster rotation

Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.

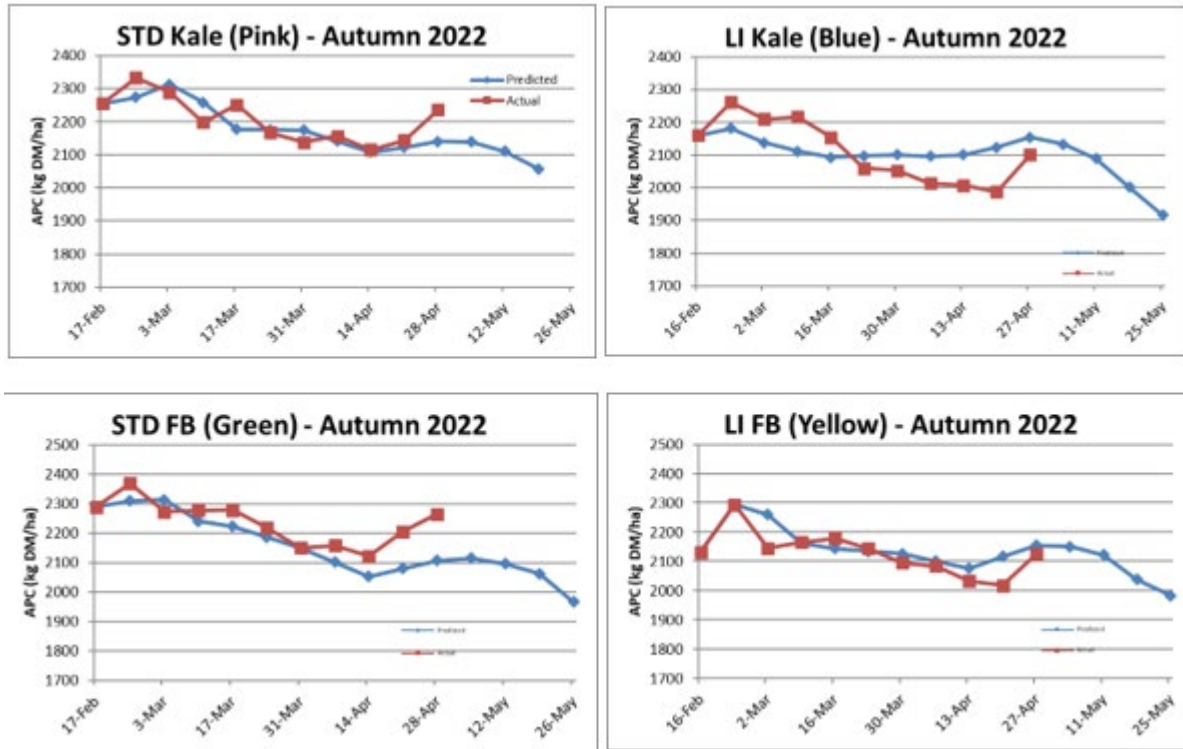


Figure 1: Kale crop and swede crop being yielded this week.

**Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter
AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.**



Figure 2: Calves at the runoff in great condition heading into winter. Diet consisting of grass, baleage and PKE.